

News release

GRADUATION OFFERS REMINDER TO REVIEW INSURANCE NEEDS *Changes may be necessary as students leave home, head to college*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 19, 2005) – Thousands of Kentucky high school and college students will cross the stage this spring during graduation ceremonies. The receipt of a diploma or degree begins a new stage in life and also serves as a reminder to review family insurance policies to see what changes, if any, need to be made.

To assist parents and students with these decisions, the Kentucky Office of Insurance (KOI) is offering a free graduate's packet of insurance publications. The packet contains tip sheets and a consumer guide to automobile and homeowners' insurance, information on credit scoring, a brochure on careers in insurance and a college student's guide to insurance.

"This is an important time for many families in the Commonwealth," said Glenn Jennings, executive director of KOI. "As part of our consumer protection and education efforts, we want to alert families to the need to evaluate existing insurance policies to be sure there are no unpleasant surprises."

For example, unmarried children generally can remain on a parent's health insurance plan until the age of 19, regardless of whether they pursue further education. Coverage can extend to the age of 25 if the child is a full-time student taking at least 12 credit hours at a college or other educational facility.

"Before your child heads off to college in a car filled with household items, it's a good idea to review automobile and homeowners' policies," Jennings added. "Ask your agent if current coverage is adequate or if changes, such as a renters' policy, are advised."

To receive the graduate's packet of insurance publications, call KOI at (800) 595-6053, ext. 4226, or order online at <http://doi.ppr.ky.gov/kentucky/>. The TTY line for deaf/hard-of-hearing is (800) 462-2081.